



5 September 2003

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Standard State Mitigation Plan (SSMP) for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

1. Purpose: To provide information on the subject project.

2. Points of Major Interest and Facts.

a. The intent of the SSMP is to identify natural and human induced hazards potentially impacting the CNMI, assess potential impacts of these hazards to the local communities, and identify policies, programs, and actions that will reduce potential losses from future disasters. A final CNMI-SSMP is scheduled for February 2004.

b. By letter, dated 16 September 2002, Mr. Rudolfo M. Pua requested the assistance of the Honolulu District in developing an SSMP for the CNMI.

c. The work is being conducted pursuant to the Chief's Economy Act (10 U. S.C. 3036(d)) and the Memorandum of Agreement between the Honolulu District and the CNMI, dated 22 October 1998. A support agreement between the Honolulu District and CNMI was executed on December 4, 2002 to initiate work on the SSMP.

d. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Public Law 106-390 requires each State and Territory to have an approved (by FEMA) SSMP by November 2004. Failure to comply will jeopardize future FEMA disaster assistance funding. The SSMP is required to be reviewed and updated every three years.

3. Congressional Interest. There is interest expressed by Representative Tenorio on products that will assist in CNMI's emergency planning and preparedness.